

THE



STANDARD

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*Questions or Comments?**Email us at:*ocs_web@benning.army.mil**FROM THE COMMANDER**

Greetings to all OCS personnel. This past quarter has been both exiting and challenging as we continued to produce officers for our Army at war. All five of our training companies have been busy training and mentoring literally hundreds of officer candidates. These candidates—turned—Second Lieutenants will be leading thousands of Soldiers in the very near future. There is not another organization in the Army that has a charter with as much importance to the total Army as OCS. The CSM and I are extremely proud of the tremendous work that you all do on a daily basis.

It seems the cadre has a hidden skill set that has surfaced over the last few weeks: ULTIMATE FOOTBALL. The OCS Cadre Ultimate Football Team has soundly defeated the 2-11 Infantry cadre team and most recently defeated the 1/507th cadre in a soggy thunderstorm showdown. Next we will take on the robust cadre of 1-11 Infantry. We look forward to the finals and the opportunity of bringing home the Commanders Cup.

*Continued, Page 2***"STANDARDS! NO COMPROMISE!!"**

“STANDARDS!

...From the Commander, continued.

The Battalion unfortunately suffered the loss of two Officer Candidates in the last two months. Memorial services were held in honor of each of these candidates and Unit representatives traveled to the Family funerals for both candidates. Our prayers go out to the family and friends of both of these candidates.

I hate to think about leaving the command but that unfortunately is scheduled to occur on 13 June 07. LTC J. B. Shattuck will be the next OCS Battalion Commander. He is currently serving here at Ft. Benning in the 29th Infantry Regiment. You will begin to see him at some of the battalion events occurring between now and June. Please help me in providing him and his family a warm welcome. His wife's name is Lee and they have two children, Nick and Kim.

Once again the Army has turned to OCS seeking out ways to commission more officers through our program. These inquiries and other efficiencies that have evolved over the past 12 months has us looking at a new program of instruction that transitions us from a 14 week course to a 12 week course. Though this plan to go to a shorter course has not been fully approved it is being seriously considered for implementation in the first quarter of FY 2008. We will keep you posted on this exciting option.

Once again I thank you all for what you do every day. OCS is a great organization because it is made up of great people with great families! Be proud of who you are and what you do. I know that Linda and I are certainly proud of you!



STANDARDS, NO COMPROMISE!

LTC Curtis J. Carson

Battalion Commander

Left: LTC Carson makes a play for the ball against 1/507th PIR. OCS cadre successfully defeated the 1/507th in a game marked by severe thunderstorms.

NO COMPROMISE!!”

ALPHA COMPANY

Alpha Company picked up class 504-07 on 28 November 2007 with 140 officer candidates. They have been doing very well at OCS considering that the class is very college-option heavy and has limited Army experience. After two weeks of introductory classes and physical events, the class left for Christmas EXODUS. After returning in January, the company went to Yankee North to learn about land navigation. Class 504-07 conducted land navigation training with a first time "Go" rate of 87%. They also conducted one of the best FLX I recovery inspections that I have seen in my eight cycles at OCS. The company is currently at FLX II and is having hands-on learning in the orders process and leading troops in the field. After their return and recovery, they will receive classroom instruction that will set the pace of their future careers. Class 504-07 will perform well and have excellent training on their way to their graduation date of 22 March 2007

The company said goodbye to CPT Kevin Leitch in December, Kevin PCS'd to Fort Sam Houston, TX for a job working with Army Reserve and National Guard units. SSG Michael McFall retired in February for a civilian training job instructing Soldiers on the Bradley Fighting Vehicle. CPT Andy Mason will be leaving in mid-March to take a company command at 1/507th Airborne School. We wish all of our A Co alumni good luck in their future endeavors. I will be leaving A Co in late March for another company command in the Des Moines Recruiting Battalion. I have enjoyed my time here at OCS working with the entire cadre. While not an OCS graduate, I have certainly grown to be a "Friend of OCS".

God bless all of you.

CPT Douglas Smith

A Co Commander



BRAVO COMPANY

Bravo Company is currently training 141 candidates in class 03-07. We just completed Land Navigation during our 4th week of training. The entire class succeeded at day Land Navigation with uncooperative weather and wildlife. We are currently in our 5th week of training conducting Warrior Basic Combat Tasks, and preparing for our 1st Field Training Exercise during week six. Bravo Company has nine weeks of training left prior to graduation that involves three more weeks of field training, two road marches, and multiple leadership classes. Class 03-07 continues to stay motivated and ready to achieve the next level in their military career.

Standards No Compromise!

MAJ Charles Price

B Co Commander



“STANDARDS!”

CHARLIE COMPANY

We would like to take this opportunity to highlight a few changes in C Company and bring light to a couple of upcoming events. Over the last month we bid farewell to SFC Mitchell to retirement, SSG Allemanni to E Company, 1SG Quinn to Regiment and CPT Azcui to Fort Gordon. Each was an integral member of our team and will be missed. We wish them the best of luck in their new endeavors. With their departure, we welcome a few new personnel to the company. CPT Headlee joins the company from 3d Brigade, 3d Infantry. SFC Johnson has joined the company from 1-11 Infantry, while SFC Florez has joined us from E Company of OCS. We also need to offer congratulations to 1LT Turley for graduation from Ranger School in January and SFC Phillips for promotion to First Sergeant.

OCS Class 502-07 is well underway and will be graduating relatively soon. During graduation week there are a few events of note to family members and spouses. The Family SRC (Soldier Readiness Checks) generally occurs one or two days before graduation. The SRC includes Army Community Service (ACS), the Red Cross, Family Advocacy, and a Chaplain. Over 3-4 hours the agencies talk to the candidates and their spouses about the services they offer. The SRC is an excellent opportunity for family members to learn about the services available to Army families. The Graduation Formal is an opportunity to celebrate the camaraderie of the past 14 weeks. Graduation day has three events that family should plan on attending. The Oath of Office occurs at 1100 hrs in the company area (outside). Graduation occurs at 1300 in Marshall Auditorium in Building 4 (Infantry Hall). After graduation, the lieutenants are informally "pinned" with rank by loved ones at a location of their choice. OCS provides the US Colors at five significant locations around the area for this purpose.

MAJ Matthew T. Morgan
Charlie Company Commander



DELTA COMPANY

Since last I wrote, Delta Company has graduated two classes. Class 0706 graduated on 07 September 2006 with 111 second lieutenants. Class 501-07 graduated on 25 January 2007 with 149 second lieutenants. These Army leaders left OCS for BOLC II, ready to take the reins of leadership.

Delta Company is currently in cycle break, with Class 0507 arriving on 19 March. Each of the cadre is preparing for the upcoming pickup date. Our great continuity with cadre is enabling the trainers to attend Army schools. SSG Gregory and SSG Fischle are currently in Ranger School, and we recently graduated three of our cadre from Combatives Level I. And there are a variety of other classes and schooling that they are attending to get them even more qualified as trainers.

We bid farewell to five of our cadre. 1SG Eric Argo was reassigned to assist the OCS S3. CPT Melissa Kinney left in mid-December for Ft. Riley. SSG Jesse Johnson moved to Echo Company in mid-January. CPT Robert Davis left in late January for Ft. Riley. And CPT Scott Haggas departed in early February for Ft. Bragg. We miss them all sorely. They kept the standards high and the training focused.

We extend a hearty welcome to five others. 1SG Kevin Fralish came onboard as 1SG Argo departed, not missing a beat and ready to pickup a class in only four weeks. CPT Deon Brown and CPT Joel Ellison arrived just prior to pickup of Class 501-07. 1LT Jeremy Eaddy and SFC Phillip Heard came onboard just before graduation of the same class. They have already shown great support to the Delta Company team and the mission here at OCS!

I send a personal thanks to 1SG Fralish, CPT McCullough, CPT Brown, CPT Ellison, 1LT Eaddy, SFC Stewart, SFC Moran, SFC Heard, SSG Gregory, SSG Fischle, and Mr. Hollingsworth (our supply tech) for their daily support, commitment and dedication to the standards that make OCS what it is!

CPT Tim Rose
Delta Company Commander

DELTA COMPANY



NO COMPROMISE!!”

ECHO COMPANY

Echo Company graduated Class 11-06 on 18 January 2007 under the leadership of CPT John Craft. It was a great class and the company cadre led the way by graduating and commissioning 157 lieutenants. After a short and well-deserved cycle break, we picked up 148 motivated candidates in class 04-07 on 12 February, as well as a new company commander! CPT Craft will be sorely missed but we wish him well in his future endeavors in the AGR.

In addition to CPT Craft, Echo Company said goodbye to some other cadre members in the last few months. 3rd Platoon will miss trainers CPT Matavao and SFC Florez. We wish CPT Matavao the best as she assumes company command at 30th AG BN and are glad that SFC Florez will be close by in Charlie Company. In March, we will say goodbye to 2nd Platoon's training NCO, SFC Gay, as he heads off to a new assignment in Korea. Good luck and stay away from the Soju!

Echo Company welcomes its newest members and their families to the team, CPT Virgil Dwyer and CPT Lauri Wright. CPT Dwyer comes to us from Kelly Hill, 1-30th IN, 3ID(M). He is an Infantryman and now the trainer for 4th Platoon. CPT Wright will be 3rd Platoon's trainer. She is a Chemical officer from Ft Bragg, NC and most recently attended the Captains' Career Course. Both of these officers are former OCS graduates and they bring a wealth of knowledge and perspective. We also look forward to the March arrival of SSG Allemanni from Charlie Company as our platoon training NCO in 2nd Platoon.

In just a few short weeks, I am already impressed with the camaraderie in this company. It is obvious that professionalism and dedication to duty are cornerstones of this unit. I look forward to working with 1SG Hooten and the platoon trainers to maintain that tradition. I am honored to be a member of the Echo company team!

CPT Heather Lopez
Echo Company Commander



HHC

Greetings from HHC!

I hope all of you enjoyed your Christmas leave and are getting back into the daily grind of work. This year alone has been a difficult one for us so far. Unfortunately, we lost a good candidate, Officer Candidate Redus, to tragic circumstances. He was only here a short while but he left a lasting impression on a lot of people. His family wanted me to let you know that they appreciate the support they received from this company.

We want to say a farewell to a couple of our outstanding cadre and civilians. We lost Mrs. Tett last week as she is now joining up with her husband in California. We will be losing Mr. Wafer as he joins his wife in Louisiana. SSG Spencer was accepted to the Warrant Officer Program and started training on the 13th of Feb at Fort Rucker, AL. Good luck to everyone and thank you for your efforts in making the battalion better.

With a bunch of farewells, we also have some new additions to our HHC team. CPT Matavao and CPT Craft from Echo Co. have joined our ranks. CPT Matavao is currently working to make the Hall of Fame a success while CPT Craft is working as the assistant S3. SGT Fambro, coming from the Ranger BN, has also joined our ranks and is already making an immediate impact on the candidates in HHC. SGT Rosado also joins our team in the S2 shop, although she is currently attending the Warrior Leader Course here at Fort Benning. She should be graduating at the end of this month. Welcome to HHC, we look forward to working with all of you.

Our next R-Day is 19 March with Delta Company. We have approximately 30 candidates that were in HHC and are currently in Alpha company and counting down the days until graduation on 22 March 07. Congratulate them if you see them. They have done a great job in the program and we are all proud of them!

CPT Angela Lamborn
HHC Commander



HHC HOOLIGANS

“STANDARDS!

OCS HALL OF FAME TO INDUCT 47 NEW MEMBERS

3rd BN 11th IN (OCS) will induct 47 new members into the OCS Hall of Fame on 30 March 2007. The Hall of Fame honors those graduates of Officer Candidate School who have distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuits.

Any one of several kinds of achievements makes a graduate eligible for consideration for the Hall of Fame. Applicants must have graduated from an Active Duty Army OCS program. OCS will consider applications from or on behalf of: Medal of Honor recipients; those graduates who have attained the rank of Colonel while serving on active duty or in the reserves; graduates elected or appointed to an office of prominence in the national or state government; graduates who have achieved national or state recognition for outstanding service to the nation; or those who have attained an exceptional wartime service record. Such achievements mark the best of the best of the thousands of great American Soldiers who have graduated OCS.

The induction festivities begin on 29 March 2007 with an induction banquet at 1800 at the Benning Club. Events on 30 March include the Hall of Fame Breakfast at the OCS DFAC, and the induction ceremony at Marshall Auditorium. The ceremony will be followed by an informal reception in the 3-11th Battalion area.

The 2007 inductees are:

GEN Bryan D. Brown	COL Richard R. Hallock	COL Thomas J. Schoenbeck
LTG Steven W. Boutelle	COL Natalie R. Jacaruso	COL Rufus J. Smith
LTG John M. Brown III	COL Charles E. Jackson	COL Thomas T. Smith
MG John DeFreitas III	COL Harold R. Kennedy	COL Ralph E. Sparks
MG Jeffrey J. Schloesser	COL David N. Langley	COL Kathleen Swacina
BG James E. Chambers	COL Kim G. Lindahl	COL Dennis M. Thompson
BG Julia A. Kraus	COL Charles M. Litzelman	COL Norma P. Tovar
COL Julie M. Augeri	COL James D. McDonough Jr.	COL Samuel T. Williams
COL Richard M. Augeri	COL Paul R. Longgear	COL Kenneth N. Williamson
COL Mitchell L. Brown	COL John D. Moors	COL David K. Young
COL Eugene C. Camp	COL Michael J. Nevin	LTC Frederick Drew
COL Barron J. Castellano	COL Richard C. Oshlo	LTC Joe McCray
COL Michael A. Coss	COL Ginger T. Pratt	LTC Floyd P. Redding
COL John Freund	COL Diana A. Raynor	LTC Fredrick L. Spaulding
COL Thomas A. Green	COL William D. Ridgely	CPT Francisco A. Besosa
COL Roger K. Griffin	COL Gary R. Rockwood	

Congratulations to each of these outstanding Soldiers!

NO COMPROMISE!!”

COMMUNITY

The **Community Activities Resource Exchange (CARE)** Newsletter 2006 is published monthly in the interest of the Fort Benning Community, Volunteers, and Family Readiness Groups. It contains useful information and points of contact for community, Soldier, and family resources, forms of assistance for Soldiers and families, community activities, and educational opportunities—to name just a few.



If you have a submission for the CARE notes, POC is:
Barbara Singleton – Contractor, AFAP/AFTB Office,
545-5377, Building 2626, Soldier Plaza, Fort Benning

PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT RESOURCE!

OCS CADRE SPOUSES COFFEE GROUP

If you are interested in being a member of the OCS Coffee Group that meets once a quarter, please send your personal e-mail address to Linda Carson at armyrats@yahoo.com. Coffee announcements and invitations are sent out via e-mail.



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SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT FORT BENNING

The National Military Family Association (NMFA) is accepting applications for the Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships. Any uniformed service spouse—active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve, or survivor studying toward professional certification or attending post-secondary or graduate school—is encouraged to apply. The \$500 – \$1000 scholarships may be used for tuition, fees, and school room and board.

Applications may be found at <http://www.nmfa.org/scholarship>. Applications will only be accepted online. **THE DEADLINE IS MIDNIGHT 15 MARCH 2007.**

The Officer Spouses' Club (OSC) offers scholarships to family members of active-duty Soldiers who are attached or assigned to Fort Benning, as well as family members of local retirees. Applicants must have a valid military ID, and a copy of it for their application. Applications are available at <http://www.fortbenningosc.org>.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 17 MARCH 2007.

POC is Karla Shinnars at Karla_Shinnars@yahoo.com or 706-610-9944.

OCS BATTALION S4 RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE



SFC Gaskins (center) at the Recognition of Excellence Breakfast, with CSM Greenway (left) and COL Ling (right).

SFC Donald Gaskins received the "Individual Quality" award at the Recognition of Excellence Breakfast on January 19th. He was cited for excellence in the battalion Command Supply Discipline Program, and the regimental Command Inspection Program in which he — as well as the civilian S4 personnel — received all Commendable Ratings.

Congratulations to SFC Gaskins for this achievement, and our thanks for his continued outstanding service to the battalion.

PASTOR'S PEN

Tragedy is something we all face in the Army, whether we're in a fighting unit or not. So it is, that the recent losses of two candidates in the battalion have caused me to reflect on the nature of grief. The bottom line: grief is normal! Grief is part of how we process pain and loss, and it is unhealthy to deny it.

Writing about her experiences with the terminally ill, Dr. Elizabeth Kübler-Ross identified stages of grief that may sound familiar to you: shock, denial, anger, bargaining, depression, testing, and acceptance. These stages do not always follow in order. You can be angry one day, depressed the next, in denial another time, and finally accepting...only to find yourself depressed again later. This is natural so long as you don't get stuck for a long time in any one stage (other than acceptance). That said, the overall movement should be towards acceptance. If after a reasonable amount of time you find yourself unable to function in daily life because of grief, seek the help of a chaplain or other helping professional.

The good news for Soldiers and their families is that we have a great resource for handling grief: each other. We can help each other get through the hard times that come with the territory of being Soldiers and families of Soldiers. The Army helps out too, with Community Services, Social Services, the Chaplain Family Life programs, and others. That way, even when we are awash in grief, we have what we need to do the hard work of pushing on with our life and work. In time, most people make it to acceptance. It is not that we ever "get over it" when we face loss and grief, but in time we do learn to "get on *with it*."

CH Eric Thompson
Battalion Chaplain

